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Unquestionably, the average youth has acquired sufficient mental training at the end of his junior year in college, possibly at the end of his sophomore year, to enable him to enter upon the study of law with a fair prospect of success. A youth of greater natural ability can omit college training entirely and yet achieve success in the law. An Abraham Lincoln or a Charles O'Connor can attain eminence in the legal profession, without any academic education. The graduate Law School does not dispute any of these statements. It does not claim that our youth are incapable of entering upon the study of law, before winning a Bachelor's degree. The criticism of its policy based upon the idea that it makes any such claim is utterly misconceived. Its policy is grounded upon the conviction that the young man who has enjoyed a full college course will make just as effective a practitioner as the youth of inferior educational training, while he will be a much broader-minded lawyer as well as a wiser counselor and a more influential public man.

Many of the topics which Mr. Bigelow would treat in his extension courses are those which the college student has an opportunity to master in his upperclassman years. If any reader questions this statement, let him examine the second, third and sixth lectures in the book before us. He will find that they are largely devoted to questions in economics and in the history of legal and political institutions which the college graduate ought to be quite familiar with. Entertainingly as these topics were presented by Brooks Adams and others, the law students who listened, without the benefit of a collegiate or equivalent training in such subjects, could have gained but slight profit therefrom. A negligible deposit of valuable information may have resulted in the case of the more intelligent hearers; and a temporary stimulus may have been given to further reading and reflection. But even the finest extension lectures are but a sorry substitute for careful and consecutive study.

Moreover, a course of extension lectures cannot be conducted in a law school, save at the expense of courses which are absolutely necessary to the instruction of the student in the "law as we have it." Not long ago Boston University Law School followed the example of Harvard and Columbia in extending its course of study for the degree of Bachelor of Laws to three years. Would it not do well to further follow their example by requiring a preliminary training for its students equivalent to that of a full college course? By so doing it would accomplish more in securing for its graduates breadth of mind and sanity of judgment than by maintaining the most brilliant courses or extension lectures. It would also be casting its influence on the side of those who believe that the true goal to set before the student or law to-day, is not haste in getting his degree or in gaining admission to the bar, but thoroughness of equipment for the proper discharge of the duties of a great profession.

STUDIES IN AUSTRALIAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW. By Judge A. Inglis Clark, of the Supreme Court of Tasmania. Second Edition. Melbourne: Charles F. Maxwell. 1905. pp. xv, 447.

The constitution of the commonwealth of Australia is of interest to American lawyers because it is so largely inspired by their own. Indeed, though Australia bears a true filial relation to Great Britain

we may, with more than mere pleasantry, call her our own daughter in law, and when John Marshall repeats through her High Court in its first important constitutional case, the rule of *McCulloch v. Maryland* that a state cannot trammel a federal agency (*D'Emden v. Pedder*, 1 C. L. R. 91) we are impressed with the perennial vigor of our great jurist's opinions and the wide reach of his persuasive authority.

New commentaries follow new constitutions, and Judge Clark's book gives the student of comparative jurisprudence a fresh and useful source of information, and the lawyer a valuable aid in the solution of constitutional problems. The writer's intimate knowledge of American institutions has equipped him for transplanting in his own country many well-chosen doctrines of American Constitutional Law. Page after page reads like an American commentary pointed here and there by the observations of a foreign yet not an alien critic.

American lawyers who are dealing with current questions of constitutional law will profit greatly by studying the chapters on the distribution of governmental powers, the judiciary, interstate commerce, police powers of the States, taxation, judicial power, the constitution and the common law, commissions of inquiry and the survey of the Constitution of the United States in the appendix.

A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF FIXTURES. By Marshall D. Ewell. Second Edition by Frank H. Childs. Chicago: Callaghan & Co. 1905. pp. cviii, 784.

Few lawyers who know anything of the law of real estate are unfamiliar with Ewell on Fixtures. Although it is nearly thirty years since the first edition of this book appeared, it has to the present time maintained its place as a standard treatise. In view of such permanent distinction, it would be gratuitous to dwell upon the merits of Dr. Ewell's work. He combined, to an unusual degree, an accurate knowledge of cases with a rational and suggestive treatment of them: to both these qualities, moreover, he added what may be termed "orientation," a clear mental arrangement of the subject of fixtures as a whole.

In the text of the second edition, now offered to the public, there is apparently no variation from that of the first. All new matter is added in brackets in the notes and consists mainly, if not entirely, in the citation or digesting of some three thousand new cases. Other than the introduction of them, no valid reason for the publication of a second edition appears. Indeed it is apparent from the preface of the editor that he regards the additional cases which he has incorporated as the justification of his labor.

With due respect for the accuracy and completeness of this new edition one still may doubt whether the labor of the editor was really worth while. He has added to the first edition some of the qualities of an encyclopedia or digest, books which we already had in plenty. No careful lawyer nowadays accepts as complete the lists of citations in any text-book. He invariably consults the special digest of his own jurisdiction and usually some general work of the same kind as well. A text-book is to be used mainly as an aid to the understanding of the theory of the law. For this purpose the second edition of Dr. Ewell's work is hardly more serviceable than the first.